

THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY



"News from Next Door"

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2022

\$1.50



PAGE A2
Santa's Helpers golf tourney to help schoolkids in need



PAGE B2
Lady Pirates sweep Tarboro in first round of playoffs



PAGE B3
Foundation awards \$6K in grants to Academy for Girls

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Early voting, mail-in balloting tops 800 in Perquimans

Early voting continues through Nov. 5, mail-ins due Nov. 8

BY REGGIE PONDER
Staff Writer

Voters in Perquimans County are taking advantage of the opportunity to vote early. As of noon Tuesday, 790

one-stop ballots had been cast in the Nov. 8 General Election. That did not include an additional 34 absentee mail-in ballots that have been returned.

"We have had a steady stream since Thursday," said Perquimans County Elections Director Jackie Greene. "It's steady." One voter casting a ballot

during one-stop Tuesday morning at the Perquimans Board of Elections Office was Leora Foreman.

"I'm concerned about a lot of things that are going on," Foreman said, explaining why she believes it's important to vote.

And she likes to vote during the one-stop period because of its convenience.

"It's better to get in and out faster — especially if you're working," Foreman said.

Foreman said she is concerned about both state and local races on this year's election ballot. One of the main issues on her mind is inflation, she said.

"Everything is going up," she said. Rising prices make it a struggle to make ends

meet, she added. Foreman declined to say which candidates she voted for.

Although there were a number of people voting Tuesday morning, Foreman said casting her vote did not take long.

One-stop voting began Oct. 20 at the elections office at 601 S. Edenton Road

St., Hertford, and continues weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. through Nov. 4. One day of Saturday voting will be held on Nov. 5 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

In the only contested local race on the county ballot, six candidates are vying for three seats on the

See **VOTING, A2**

Welcome Friends



PHOTOS BY JOHN FOLEY/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

Lynwood Winslow addresses those attending a ceremony to rededicate the Edmundson-Fox Quaker monument at Phelps Point in Hertford, Sunday. The monument, first placed in 1929, had to be relocated about 10 feet back from its former site to accommodate construction of the new S-Bridge over the Perquimans River.

Friends rededicate Quaker monument

BY JOHN FOLEY
Staff Writer

Despite misting rain and a cloud-filled sky, members of the Religious Society of Friends from Perquimans and across the state celebrated the rededication of the Edmundson-Fox Quaker Memorial Monument in Hertford on Sunday.

Located on Phelps Point in the shadow of the new S-bridge, the monument was originally dedicated at the corner of Church and Newby streets in 1929. Construction of the new bridge, however, required the monument to be relocated approximately 10 feet behind its original site.

"This worked out well," said Lynnwood Winslow of



Glenn White addresses those attending a ceremony to rededicate the Edmundson-Fox Quaker monument at Phelps Point in Hertford, Sunday.

Up River Meeting, who along with Glenn White, spoke at Sunday's rededication. "We had discussed either moving the monument or placing an addition plaque on the back

so people wouldn't need to stand in the road. This move is great."

The monument marks the spot where the first religious service on record in

North Carolina was held.

"Near this spot William Edmundson, an English Friend, held in May 1672 the first religious service on record in Carolina," reads the monument's plaque. "Six months later, George Fox, Founder of the Religious Society of Friends, also visited this section and held meetings among the Colonists. Here were the beginnings of the religious life of a great state."

Winslow read excerpts from Edmundson's and Fox's journals, noting that the weather the two Friends encountered in what later would become Perquimans County was "a little worse during that spring in 1672"

See **MONUMENT, A2**

AG, locals discuss uses for opioid settlement funds

Area will receive \$5.5M from 1 drug maker, 3 distributors

BY PAUL NIELSEN
The Daily Advance

North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein discussed strategies for mitigating the opioid crisis last week with area leaders whose counties have begun receiving their first payments from a national opioid settlement.

Stein said the money will save lives and has to be used for prevention, treatment, recovery and harm reduction services.



STEIN

He said opioid deaths in the state are currently averaging around 3,600 a year, including 30 in the Albemarle region in 2021.

"It is ravaging too many lives," said Stein, who helped lead a nationwide effort for the settlement money. "Your communities are not immune."

See **STEIN, A5**



REGGIE PONDER/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

The Open Door Food Pantry of Perquimans County has purchased the former Highway 55 restaurant building and will be moving into the new site once renovations are complete.

Food pantry buys former Highway 55

Open Door will remodel new facility before moving

BY JOHN FOLEY
Staff Writer

For the first time in its 42-year history, The Open Door Food Pantry of Perquimans County has a home of its own.

The nonprofit that provides food to county res-

idents who need it, has purchased the former Highway 55 restaurant at 293 Creek Drive in Hertford and will be moving its services there.

The Open Door's new facility will need some remodeling before pantry service can begin. Until then, pantry services will continue to be offered

See **PANTRY, A5**

Ghost talk: 'Ghosts' of Masons revisit Hertford's past

About 180 attended Lodge 106's first Ghost Walk last weekend

BY JOHN FOLEY
Staff Writer

About 180 people got a glimpse into Perquimans County's past this past weekend during Perquimans Masonic Lodge 106's first-ever



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Ghost Walk.

The town's streets came to life Saturday night as curious residents visited four different venues where they got to hear tales about four prominent Masons from their "ghosts" — locals portraying them. Perquimans Masonic Lodge 106 members hosted the event and also led ghost-spotters around town.

An actor portraying local attorney James McNider spun a tale or two about crimes and villains in Perquimans in the early 20th century. One of his stories was about the murder trial for Jim Wilcox, the boyfriend accused of killing Nell Cropsey in 1901.

Although both Wilcox and Cropsey were from Elizabeth City,

Wilcox's murder trial was held in Perquimans County where he was defended by McNider. Wilcox would be found guilty and sentenced to death but the N.C. Supreme Court later overturned that verdict declaring his first trial a mistrial.

Wilcox would also be found guilty of second-degree murder in Cropsey's death at a second trial and sentenced to 30 years in prison. In 1920, he was pardoned by the governor. He continued to claim his innocence until his death by suicide in 1932.

Dr. John Harris didn't fare too well in Hertford, either. The young

See **WALK, A5**



JOHN FOLEY/THE PERQUIMANS WEEKLY

The "ghost" of bridge tender James S. Vick, speaking to Ghost Walk attendees in front of the restored bridge tender's house, was one of four ghosts of prominent Masons to talk about their lives and Perquimans' historic past during Perquimans County Masonic Lodge 106's first-ever Ghost Walk Friday and Saturday.